

October 4, 2002

Federal Communications Commission
C/O Commission Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch
445 12th Street SW, CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554

FCC Proceeding: 02-306

Dear Commissioners:

Last month, the Federal Communications Commission received a 271 application from SBC Pacific Bell. I am writing in support of this application -- and strongly encourage you to approve SBC Pacific Bell's filing and allow California consumers and businesses to benefit from open telecommunications competition.

As vice chairman of the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee, I am familiar with the telecommunications industry and its major issues. In recent years, I have been involved in hearings and legislation. From my perspective, the SBC Pacific Bell application process at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has taken far too long.

Since SBC Pacific Bell filed its application four years ago, I have been following the application's glacier-like progress through the CPUC. I previously have called for quicker action by the CPUC. I am pleased that the matter is finally now before the FCC for a final consideration within 90 days.

You already have approved full and open competition in more than 20 states -- I hope California can be added to your list. Without question, the Telecom marketplace in this state is fully open and competitive. SBC Pacific Bell's long distance entry will spur competition even further -- and add substantial consumer benefits. I know that consumers, businesses, and organizations in my district want to see those increased benefits.

Thank you for considering my petition on behalf of SBC Pacific Bell's application. I look forward to the Commission's final vote later this year.

Finally, on behalf of my fellow Californians, thank you for the deliberative decision-making and crucial services you provide the nation on the many complex matters that come before you.

Sincerely,

BILL MORROW
Senator, 38th District